

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A leadframe comprising an element mount frame, a fitting frame that is laid beside the element mount frame with a gap left in between, and a shielding frame that is tied via a tying portion to the fitting frame and that can be brought into such a state as to cover the element mount frame by bending the tying portion,

wherein the fitting frame is positioned between the shielding frame and the element mount frame,

wherein a photodetector element having a light receiving portion is mounted on the element mount frame, and

wherein the shielding frame has a window such that when the shielding frame covers the element mount frame, the window overlaps the light-receiving portion of the photodetector element, thereby permitting light to strike the photodetector element.

2. (Previously Presented) The leadframe of claim 1,
wherein tie bars are provided at both ends of the gap.

3. (Original) The leadframe of claim 1,
wherein the element mount frame and the fitting frame are separate.

4. (Previously Presented) The leadframe of claim 1,
wherein the fitting frame is, in a portion thereof near the tying portion, shaped symmetrically about the tying portion.

5. (Currently Amended) A photodetector module comprising a photodetector element having a light-receiving portion, an element mount frame on which the photodetector element is mounted, a fitting frame that is laid beside the element mount

frame with a gap left in between, a shielding frame that is tied via a tying portion to the fitting frame and that can be brought into such a state as to cover the element mount frame by bending the tying portion, and molding resin in which the element mount frame and the fitting frame are sealed,

wherein the fitting frame is positioned between the shielding frame and the element mount frame, and

wherein the shielding frame has a window such that when the shielding frame covers the element mount frame, the window overlaps the light-receiving portion of the photodetector element, thereby permitting light to strike the photodetector element.

6. (Original) The photodetector module of claim 5,

wherein the element mount frame and the shielding frame are kept at an equal potential.

7. (Original) The photodetector module of claim 5,

wherein the element mount frame and the shielding frame are kept at different potentials.

8. (Original) The photodetector module of claim 5,

wherein a circuit element that processes a signal from the photodetector element is mounted on the element mount frame.

9. (Original) The photodetector module of claim 5,

wherein the element mount frame and the gap have nearly equal lengths.